

**TOWN OF SHEFFIELD
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
SEPTEMBER 28, 2015
DOWNSTAIRS MEETING ROOM
7:00 PM**

Board Members Present: Don Ward, Chairman
Cheryl Blackburn
Jeff Collingwood
Ted Pitman
Peter Stiglin

Others Present: Jill Hughes, Clerk
Members of the public (see sign in sheet)

Chairman Don Ward called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Public Hearing: Request for Determination of Applicability filed by Dexter Scudder Graybeal for property at 36 Bow Wow Rd, proposed project is to repair subsurface sewage disposal system: Mark Reynolds from Kelly, Granger, Parsons & Assoc. was present for the applicant. The Commission conducted on a site visit prior to the meeting. Mr. Reynolds explained that the plan is to keep the existing septic tank and to install a new 1,000 gallon pump chamber and leach fields. A silt fence will be installed prior to the start of any work. A discussion ensued. **T. Pitman motioned, with a second from J. Collingwood to issue a Negative Determination #3 with the following condition: Silt fence to be installed as shown on Subsurface Disposal System Upgrade map. Notify Commission once silt fence is placed. The motion passed 5-0.**

Public Hearing: Request for Determination of Applicability filed by Paul Collins for property at 500 Foley Rd, proposed project is to construct a single family home after approved subdivision. The Commission conducted a site visit prior to the meeting and met with the applicant's contractor. Chairman Ward explained that the contractor requested a continuation to the next meeting and will send a request in writing. **C. Blackburn motioned, with a second from T. Pitman to continue the public hearing for the Request for Determination of Applicability for Paul Collins to October 26, 2015.**

Public Hearing: Request for Determination of Applicability filed by the Town of Sheffield for property at Covered Bridge Lane, proposed project is treatment of Japanese Knotweed. Work to be completed by Native Habitat Restoration. Sari Hoy was present and stated that years ago she did the treatment and showed the Commission a map where the work would be done. The plants would be treated with Rodeo, a wetland approved herbicide. Dye is mixed with the herbicide so they can see where it has been applied. Ms. Hoy explained that she is donating her time and materials to the Town. If needed to discourage re-introduction she would seed the area. A discussion ensued about the proposed project. **P. Stiglin motioned, with a second from J. Collingwood to issue a Negative Determination #3 with the following condition: Notify the Commission when work will start and when work is finished. The motion passed 5-0.**

Chairman Ward stated that he would like to send thank you letter to Sari. He will draft a letter with the Commission secretary.

Public Hearing: Request for Determination of Applicability filed by the Town of Sheffield for property on Frederic Lane, proposed project is a nature trail to be constructed on land bordering the Sheffield Town Park and Frederic Lane. The trail will be approximately one quarter of a mile in length, and will be constructed for the benefit of the public. Sean Smith from Boy Scout Troop #28 was present and read his proposal for the public trail, which will be constructed along the existing terrain within the Town Park property. Any portions of the trail with steep or low grades may be crossed with a non-impact log span of low height. Selective harvesting of onsite trees will be required. The trail will require brush cutting, clearing of surface debris and minor surface raking to minimally level the trail to a width no greater than three feet wide. Mr. Smith stated that Will Conklin will be assisting him as well as the Scout Troop, Greenagers and family. A discussion ensued about the proposed project. **J. Collingwood motioned, with a second from P. Stiglin to issue a Negative Determination #2 and #5 and site 310 CMR 10.02 (2)(b) 2.a. as the regulatory citation. The motion passed 5-0.** The Commission asked Mr. Smith to notify them when the work will start and when it is completed.

Selectman Nadine Hawver thanked Jeff Collingwood and the Commission for working with Sean Smith.

Public Hearing: Request for Determination of Applicability filed by George Soudant for property at 1375 North Main St, proposed project is to stump grind (15) pine tree stumps located within the 100-ft WPA-Buffer Zone to approximately 12 inches below the ground surface. Other work will be temporary grading of the former cellar hole with onsite soils for safety purposes. George Soudant, owner of the property was present. Jeff Collingwood recused himself as he did the engineering work for the previous owner as well as Mr. Soudant. The Commission conducted a site visit prior to the meeting. Mr. Collingwood explained that the cellar hole would be filled in to make the site safe and that straw waddles would be placed on the North side of the pine tree stumps prior to the start of work. A discussion ensued about the proposed project. **P. Stiglin motioned, with a second from C. Blackburn to issue a Negative Determination #2. The motion passed 4-0. J. Collingwood abstained.**

Approval of Minutes: The Commission reviewed draft minutes from September 14, 2015. **J. Collingwood motioned, with a second from C. Blackburn to approve the September 14, 2015 minutes as written. The motion passed 3-0. T. Pitman and P. Stiglin abstained because they were not present at the meeting.**

Bills Pending: The Commission reviewed and signed a bills payable.

Review of Forest Cutting Plans: There were no cutting plans to review.


Upcoming Conferences and Mail: The Commission discussed an upcoming seminar in October being offered by the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission.

Adjournment: There being no further business before the Commission this evening, **P. Stiglin motioned, with a second from T. Pitman to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed 5-0.**

The meeting adjourned at 7:43 pm.

The following documents were reviewed during the Board's meeting and have been retained as required by the Massachusetts Public Retention Policy: Meeting Agenda, Sign in sheet, Draft meeting minutes 9/14/15; RDA's for Dexter Scudder Graybeal, Paul Collins, (2) for the Town of Sheffield and George Soudant.

Respectively submitted by:


Jim Hughes
Recording Secretary